

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): ~~Hydrokinetic appliance (10)~~ A hydrokinetic coupling device, in particular for a motor vehicle, comprising:

a casing (1,2) formed from a first shell [(1)] which rotationally connecting connects a driving shaft [(A1)] and an impeller wheel [(11)];

a turbine wheel [(12)] ~~rotationally~~ fixed, by a connection without play, to a turbine hub [(18)] which is able to be rotationally connected to a driven shaft [(A2)];

a clutch [(16)] locking the coupling of the driving [(A1)] and driven [(A2)] shafts, comprising a piston [(76)], able to move axially in order to disengageably connect a second shell [(2)] of the casing to the driven shaft ~~(A2)~~, clamping at least one friction disc [(80)] ~~rotationally~~ fixed firstly to the second casing shell [(2)] by means of a first connecting piece [(82)] and secondly to ~~[[the]]~~ an input element ~~(26, 28)~~ of a damping device [(20)] by means of a second connecting piece [(84)];

~~in which~~ the damping device [(20)] ~~comprises~~ comprising circumferentially acting elastic members [(50)] interposed between ~~[[two]]~~ rear and front guide washers ~~(26, 28)~~ forming the input element and a damper plate [(29)] forming ~~[[the]]~~ an output element and which is ~~rotationally~~ fixed to the driven shaft [(A2)], the input and output elements being rotationally connected with a capacity for angular movement which is limited by stop

Appl. No. 10/523,826
In re ARHAB et al.
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 21, 2009

members means (38), and comprising a channel [(V1)] supplying the casing with fluid and a channel discharging [(V2)] the fluid,

wherein the damping device [(20)] comprises further comprising means (100, 110, 116, 120, 138, 140) for restricting the circulation of the fluid in a roughly radial direction, at least inside [the] a front axial space [(E1)] of the damping device, which is situated between the front guide washer [(28)] and the damper plate [(29)], so as to promote the circulation of fluid[,] from the supply channel [(V1)] to the discharge channel [(V2)], through the lock-up clutch [(16)].

Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the means for restricting the circulation of fluid comprise at least one axial-effect front elastic washer (100) ~~which is~~ interposed axially between the damper plate [(29)] and the front guide washer [(28),] so as to form a barrier against the radial circulation of the fluid inside the front axial space [(E1)] of the damping device [(20)].

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 2 [(1)], ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the means for restricting the circulation of fluid comprise at least one axial-effect rear elastic washer (110) ~~which is~~ interposed axially between the damper plate [(29)] and one of the rear guide washer and the turbine hub a-facing radial surface towards the rear, and ~~which is~~ disposed radially inside[,] with respect to the elastic

Appl. No. 10/523,826
In re ARHAB et al.
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 21, 2009

members ~~[(50),]~~ so as to form a barrier against the radial circulation of the fluid inside ~~[[the]]~~ a rear axial space ~~[(E2),]~~ situated between the damper plate ~~[(29)]~~ and the rear guide washer ~~[(29)]~~.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 3 ~~[[2]]~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein each elastic washer ~~(100, 110)~~ is a frustoconical washer.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 3 ~~[[2]]~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein each of the front and rear elastic washers ~~washer (100, 110)~~ is centered ~~centred~~ with respect to the axis by means of a complementary ~~centring~~ centering profile ~~(108, 112, 114, 118)~~ which is produced in the associated rear or front guide washer ~~(26, 28)~~, or in the damper plate ~~[(29)]~~.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to claim 5, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the centring centering profile comprises several strikes ~~[(118)]~~ forming, on the associated guide washer ~~[(28)]~~ or on the damper plate ~~[(29)]~~, angularly distributed ~~centring~~ centering reliefs.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the rear guide washer ~~[(26)]~~ is ~~rotationally~~ fixed to the turbine hub ~~[(18)]~~.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 7, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the rear guide washer [(26)] and the turbine hub [(18)] are rotationally integral by meshing, by means of teeth (30, 32) which are carried respectively by [[the]] an internal periphery of the rear guide washer [(26)] and by [[the]] an external periphery of the turbine hub [(18)].

Claim 9 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 7, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the turbine hub (18) comprises a continuous annular radial surface [(116)] which comes into axial abutment against [[the]] a rear face of the damper plate [(29)] so as to prevent the radial circulation of the fluid inside the rear axial space [(E2)].

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ A hydrokinetic coupling device according to Claim 7, ~~taken in combination with Claim 3~~ for a motor vehicle, comprising:
a casing formed from a first shell which rotationally connecting a driving shaft and an
impeller wheel;
a turbine wheel fixed by a connection without play to a turbine hub which is able to be
rotationally connected to a driven shaft;
a clutch locking the coupling of the driving and driven shafts, comprising a piston,
able to move axially in order to disengageably connect a second shell of the casing to the
driven shaft, clamping at least one friction disc fixed firstly to the second casing shell by

Appl. No. 10/523,826
In re ARHAB et al.
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 21, 2009

means of a first connecting piece and secondly to an input element of a damping device by means of a second connecting piece;

the damping device comprising circumferentially acting elastic members interposed between rear and front guide washers forming the input element and a damper plate forming an output element and which is fixed to the driven shaft, the input and output elements being rotationally connected with a capacity for angular movement which is limited by stop members, and comprising a channel supplying the casing with fluid and a channel discharging the fluid;

the rear guide washer being fixed to the turbine hub;

the damping device further comprising means for restricting the circulation of the fluid in a roughly radial direction, at least inside a front axial space of the damping device, situated between the front guide washer and the damper plate, so as to promote the circulation of fluid from the supply channel to the discharge channel through the lock-up clutch;

the means for restricting the circulation of fluid comprising at least one axial-effect front elastic washer interposed axially between the damper plate and the front guide washer so as to form a barrier against the radial circulation of the fluid inside the front axial space of the damping device, and at least one axial-effect [[the]] the rear elastic washer (110) is interposed axially between the damper plate [[(29)]] and [[the]] a front face of the turbine hub [[(18)]] and disposed radially inside with respect to the elastic members so as to form a barrier against the radial circulation of the fluid inside a rear axial space situated between the damper plate and the rear guide washer.

Appl. No. 10/523,826
In re ARHAB et al.
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 21, 2009

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 10, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a surface ~~[[(114)]]~~ of the turbine hub ~~[[(18)]]~~ liable to be in contact with the rear elastic washer ~~[[(110),]]~~ and/or the rear elastic washer ~~(110), is being treated with a view to increasing~~ ~~[[its]]~~ hardness thereof.

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a central part ~~[[(54)]]~~ of the front guide washer ~~[[(28)]]~~ and/or ~~[[the]]~~ a central part ~~[[(56)]]~~ of the rear guide washer ~~[[(26)]]~~, which is situated in line with the elastic members ~~[[(50)]]~~, is solid, by virtue of which the fluid cannot flow in the associated axial space ~~(E1, E2)~~ associated with one of the front guide washer and the rear guide washer by passing through the central part ~~(54, 56)~~ of the rear and front guide washer ~~(26, 28)~~.

Claim 13 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 12, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the damping device ~~[[(20)]]~~ comprises pairs of cups ~~(130, 132)~~ which are arranged in the central parts ~~(54, 56)~~ of the rear and front guide washers ~~(26, 28)~~ so as to form abutment surfaces for the circumferentially acting elastic members ~~[[(50)]]~~.

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein each of the rear and front guide washer ~~(26, 28)~~

Appl. No. 10/523,826
In re ARHAB et al.
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 21, 2009

comprises a continuous external peripheral edge (34, 36), and ~~in that~~ wherein the two external edges (34, 36) are adjacent, so as to close off ~~[[the]]~~ an external periphery of the damping device ~~[[(20)]]~~.

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein ~~[[the]]~~ an external peripheral edge ~~[[(34)]]~~ of one of the guide washers ~~[[(26)]]~~ is extended axially towards the rear by a deflector ~~[[(140)]]~~ which diverts the flow of oil towards the clutch ~~[[(16)]]~~.

Claim 16 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 15, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the deflector ~~[[(140)]]~~ forms an annular skirt which minimizes ~~minimises~~ the axial space between the external periphery of the damping device ~~[[(20)]]~~ and the turbine wheel ~~[[(12)]]~~.

Claim 17 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 15, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the deflector ~~[[(140)]]~~ is formed by an external radial extension of the rear guide washer ~~[[(26)]]~~ in a single piece.

Claim 18 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the front guide washer ~~[[(28)]]~~ and the damper plate ~~[[(29)]]~~ each comprise axial drillings (102, 104), which are arranged roughly axially opposite

Appl. No. 10/523,826
In re ARHAB et al.
Reply to Office Action of Aug. 21, 2009

each other, with a view to facilitating the circulation of the flow of oil, which has passed through the clutch [(16)], to the discharge channel [(V2)].

Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the turbine hub [(18)] comprises axial passages [(106)], close to [(its)] an internal periphery thereof, with a view to facilitating the circulation of the flow of oil, which has passed through the clutch [(16)], to the discharge channel [(V2)].

Claim 20 (currently amended): ~~Appliance (10)~~ The coupling device according to Claim 19, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the axial passages [(106)] are produced in the form of axial grooves.